(d) and (e) The Government does not make any distinction between Cine Stars and the general taxpayers regarding recovery of tax arrears which is a continuous process and no time limit can be fixed for enforcing recovery of outstanding demands. Depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case, appropriate steps are being taken from time to time by the concerned income-tax authorities for recovery/reduction of tax arrears.

Decline in Revenue collection

994. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tussle over CBEC and CBDT chairmanships has resulted in the sharp decline over revenue collection; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Denial of World Bank and IMF Fund for poverty alleviation

995. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports appearing in The Economics Times of Sunday, 10th July, 1994 regarding denial of World Bank, IMF to fund poverty alleviation programmes in SAARC countries;

(b) if so, what would be its cascading effects on our own poverty alleviation programmes ?

(c) how much aid does India received from these World bodies on these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) So far no specific poverty alleviation project has been funded by the World Bank in India. However, a substantial part of Bank assistance is aimed towards poverty targetted intervention. Lending by IMF is not project tied.

Imported goods free from fiscal control

996. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to free all imported consumer goods from fiscal control;

(b) if so, from which date these controls are to be lifted;

(c) whether Government are considering only tariffs to be used to regulate such imports;

(d) whether items of consumer use have been identified; and

(e) if so, to what extent it will be helpful to fully liberalise economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d) Rationalisation of customs duties on consumer goods with a view to a suitable tarrif-cum-OGL import regime has been incorporated in a Discussion Paper. However, no policy decision has yet been taken.

(e) Does not arise.

Interest free loan to sick unit by SBI

997. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Bank of India plan to give interest free loans to sick units; and